

UPDATE

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MEDICAL EXPLORER POST ORGANIZED

THE FIRST MEETING OF THE NEWLY ORGANIZED Medical Explorer Post #916 sponsored by the Center was attended by over 250 area high school students and parents. Victor Stonebraker, Technical Director of Pulmonary Function and Advisor to the group, explained the purposes of the organization and outlined future plans.

Stonebraker said the group's goals were to provide medical career information and experiences and to give the young people insight into the health care environment. The first program was a slide presentation and lecture on the variety of health careers.

The Post's most recent meeting was held Monday, October 13, in the Center's Auditorium. The group elected student officers and experienced a film and demonstration of Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation. Gerri Butterfield, SPD supervisor and chairperson of the Center's Post Committee, announced that paid-up membership had grown to 102 and was still on the rise.

Future programs will include a panel discussion with several physicians on the requirements and education necessary for a career in medicine, a panel discussion of nursing careers and specialties, a demonstration of Ultra-Sound Scanning, a demonstration of the Pulmonary Function Analyzer and other equipment, and a complete CPR course.

Stonebraker expressed his appreciation to all staff members who serve on the Post Committee and Kim Kauffman, an Allentown Hospital student nurse, who serves as Assistant Advisor. He added that staff volunteers are needed to be involved in planning and programming of activities.

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CARDIAC REHAB CONFERENCE

DR. CHARLES S. SMITHEN, CORNELL UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER, will speak at the Center about the values of stress testing and an exercise rehabilitation program for the cardiac patient.

The program, to be held in the Center's Auditorium on October 29 at 10:00 a.m., should prove to be an excellent vehicle for making the entire staff and community of physicians aware of the hospital-based program.

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ICU CHANGES

ON OCTOBER 6, THE INTENSIVE CARE UNIT officially opened its East wing. Six beds will be utilized routinely in the newly activated section.

Six beds will be in use in the West wing. The total increase in ICU beds is three, although the Center's overall bed count does not increase due to the closing of beds in the Acute Coronary Care Unit.

The active bed numbers in ICU East will be 1 through 6, and the new phone extension is 3006. Bed numbers in the West wing are 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, and 16, and the telephone number remains 2151.

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OOPS!

WE GOOFED in the October 3 edition of UPDATE. The total force of volunteers during the month of August was 279, not 219 as was reported.

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BENEFITS CORNER--SHIFT DIFFERENTIAL

HOSPITAL CENTER EMPLOYEES are paid a shift differential for working the evening and night shifts. This payment is only made for employees who work in areas that normally require those shifts and whose shifts begin after noon and extend past 3:00 p.m. Supervisors and Department Heads should be careful when reviewing employees' timesheets to insure hours worked are recorded in the correct shift.

The shift differential is paid as follows:

- Handwritten notes on left margin: "Home! you don't get that you must work shift. this must be for full shift."*
- A. Professional Employees  
\$.35 an hour for both evening and night shifts. Includes Registered Nurses, Registered Respiratory Therapists, and Medical Technologists.
  - B. Technical Employees  
\$.26 an hour for both evening and night shifts. Includes Licensed Practical Nurses, EKG Technicians, X-Ray Technicians, Medical Lab Technicians, Certified Lab Assistants, Inhalation Therapy Technicians (including CRTT), and Maintenance employees.
  - C. Other Employees  
\$.20 an hour for both evening and night shifts. Includes Housekeepers, Aides, Orderlies, Dietary workers, SPD personnel, Centrex Operators, Unit Clerks, and Clerks.

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SEE THE WORLD

HOSPITAL CENTRAL SERVICES, INC. has recently instituted a travel program for its member hospitals in conjunction with a Philadelphia travel agency.

Inexpensive group travel programs will be available to employees and their families to such places as Las Vegas, Disneyworld, Mexico and Hawaii. There's even a cruise to Bermuda! Brochures on the trips already scheduled are available in the Personnel Office. As we learn of new trips scheduled for next year-- we'll let you know. Bon Voyage!

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NEW CONSTRUCTION

IN PREPARATION FOR COLDER MONTHS AHEAD, the Hospital Center has awarded General Contractor Alvin Butz the bid to construct an additional foyer at the main entrance. The addition, a glass enclosed, fully heated area, will extend approximately fifteen feet and will aid in maintaining warmer temperatures in the main lobby. Construction should be completed in six weeks.

A temporary inconvenience for permanent improvement!

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10/17/75

SHAPP SIGNS MALPRACTICE BILL

ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, GOVERNOR SHAPP SIGNED the malpractice insurance law into effect. We are very pleased for the health industry for the action taken by the Legislature. There are certain aspects of the bill that can be improved upon, but essentially, ninety days from signing the bill becomes law, and the liability by the hospital's or physician's carrier is limited to \$100,000 per incident. Liability above \$100,000 basic coverage will be pooled by a statewide program. The program mandates that all claims be reviewed by an arbitration board with appeal process provided.

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REGES APPOINTED

JOHN F. REGES, DIRECTOR OF MATERIAL MANAGEMENT, was recently named chairman of the Group Purchasing negotiating arm of Hospital Central Services, Inc.

In his new role, Reges will be responsible for securing supplies and equipment from manufacturers and distributors at the best prices for all the hospitals participating in HCSC's Group Purchasing Program.

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